

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01 L-03

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

EB-11 SCEM-02 INT-08 SCI-06 DRC-01 /123 W

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R 122058Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9432

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 5045

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENGR, SENU, DR

SUBJECT: SUPERPORT AT PUERTO RICO

REF: SANTO DOMINGO 5020

1. SUMMARY: MEETING BETWEEN PUERTO RICAN AND DOMINICAN OFFICIALS
DEC 12 REGARDING SUPERPORT WENT EXTREMELY WELL. A MIXED PUERTO RICAN
AND DOMINICAN TECHNICAL COMMISSION WAS ESTABLISHED TO STUDY THE
PROBLEM. AS LONG AS QUESTION IS UNDER STUDY BY TECHNICIANS, EMBASSY
SEES NO NEED TO REPLY TO GODR NOTES ON SUBJECT.

2. THIRTY-FIVE MINUTE MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENT BALAGUER, PUERTO
RICAN SECRETARY OF STATE VICTOR PONS, TED MOSCOSO AND AMBASSADOR
WAS VERY CORDIAL. PRESIDENT SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAD APPROACHED
ISSUE OF SUPERPORT IN PUERTO RICO WITH CONSIDERABLE CAUTION FOR IT
DID NOT WISH TO HEIGHTEN EMOTIONS. BALAGUER ADDED THAT HE PERSONALLY
HAD NO POSITION ON THE MATTER SINCE HE DID NOT POSSESS THE TECHNICAL
ELEMENTS OF JUDGMENT. DISCUSSION LED TO IDEA OF ESTABLISHING A
MIXED TECHNICAL COMMISSION TO STUDY THE PROBLEM.

3. ONE HOUR AND QUARTER MEETING OF THE COMISION NACIONAL DE
DESARROLLO (CND), CHAIRED BY PRESIDENT, ENABLED MOSCOSO AND HIS
TECHNICIANS TO EXPLAIN WHAT WAS INTENDED AND TO ATTEMPT TO ALLAY
ENVIRONMENTAL ANXIETIES. VERY FEW QUESTIONS WERE ASKED AFTER
THE PRESENTATION AND NONE WERE HOSTILE. AT FONSEC LUNCHEON
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THEREAFTER IT WAS AGREED TO PLACE THE MIXED TECHNICAL COMMISSION

ON THE SUPERPORT UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE GENERAL PUERTO RICAN/
DOMINICAN MIXED COMMISSION AS A MEANS OF REVIVING THAT SEMI-
MORIBUND ENTITY.

4. COMMENT: BOTH PUERTO RICAN AND DOMINICAN PARTICIPANTS HAVE
TOLD US THEY THOUGHT THE MEETING VERY POSITIVE AND THAT THEY INTENDED
TO FOLLOW UP. NOW THAT THIS QUESTION IS FINALLY ON A BILATERAL
TECHNICAL TRACT, WE BELIEVE IT BEST TO AWAIT THE OUTCOME OF
THESE TECHNICAL TALKS (WHICH WILL INCLUDE VISITS TO PUERTO RICO)
BEFORE FORMULATING A REPLY TO THE GODR NOTES. FROM OUR STANDPOINT,
WE CAN EASILY FEND OFF ANY PRESSURE FOR A FORMAL REPLY AS LONG
AS THE TWO PARTIES ARE TALKING.
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